

Hi,

Good news. We have received a response from OR today answering all of the questions put to them. The significant one relates to voucher validity. For clarity we've added what we sent to you last night.

The DCMS terms and Conditions, para 1.7, state

Your new connection must be installed within 12 months of the issue of a voucher. If your supplier is not able to deliver your new connection by this date then the voucher will expire and the grant will no longer be available. We accept no liability for the costs of connections which are not delivered within 12 months of the offer of a voucher.

The Openreach Pledge Terms and Conditions state

If delivery is not achieved within the Build Completion Target Date and is not due to a matter beyond our reasonable control, rendering the RGC Voucher potentially ineligible, we will not seek to recover any costs from you. Save to the extent that such liability cannot be limited under law, our liability to you in respect of these Pledge Conditions shall extend solely to covering the cost of the RGC Voucher.

So, if OR cause a delay they will **not** seek any money from the community should it not be possible to claim vouchers within 12 months.

Today OR have clarified the situation should the delay be for reasons *outside of their control*, the wording of their reply is:

If a project is delayed we contact DCMS and get an extension on the vouchers. There is nothing here for the community to worry about.

Now that we have that in writing it seems that our initial concern over liability was unfounded.

With this out of the way we can move forward with confidence.

We've had a positive response to the initial enquiry as our email yesterday implied, but we are still not certain that we will reach the threshold of pledges required for the project to proceed. If you wish to pledge please complete the spreadsheet as soon as possible. If you were uncertain we would appreciate it if you could think it over and let us know (we will be happy to answer any further questions you have). If you have spoken to your neighbour previously and know that they have some interest feel free to remind them (from greater than 2 m)!

The questions to and reply from OR will be posted on the webpage in the next day or so as update.